

That's The Spirit!

Rev. Carol Breimeier
Rev. Fred Nelson

New Spirit Lutheran Church
*Our faith is in Jesus.
Our hope is in grace.
Our strength is in love.*

October 2021

WELCOMING EVERYONE WHO COMES THROUGH OUR DOORS



We have a new visitor station in the church entryway. There's a banner that says "Welcome" and matching nametags to identify greeters. We also have a high table to make it easier for people to fill out a yellow visitor sheet and make themselves a name tag. Our trained greeters are doing a great job of making sure everyone who walks through our doors for the first time is seen and welcomed. The next step is for all of us: to keep an eye out for unfamiliar faces and make sure to say a word of welcome and help folks feel comfortable and at home in our church.

OCTOBER IS GOING TO BE A BUSY MONTH!

There is always a lot going on in a church. Even when we're limiting activities and in-person events, our members are praying for each other, learning from Scripture, keeping in touch, listening to God's guidance, and growing in their faith. Even when many of us don't see it happening, individuals are showing up to make sure kids get backpacks full of food, homeless folks get a meal, our grounds get cleaned up, repairs are done to the buildings, and all the administrative functions are handled.

All that is happening all the time.

But this coming month, that underground river is going to break through the surface and you're going to see a free flow of activity such as we haven't seen since March 2020.

This newsletter is your guide to a full and fulfilling month that wraps up, on October 31, with a much-delayed celebration of Pastor Alan Field, who retired during the pandemic. Read on for all the info.

May your days be filled with God's Spirit!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Carol

**Word from
Our Pastor**



FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION AND CELEBRATION

On Saturday, October 16, Pastor Carol will lead new communicants in a preparation session before they take their first communion the next day. We'll gather outdoors at 10:00am and spend an hour and a half talking about what Holy Communion is about and doing some little activities, including a communion rehearsal. This is open to both children and any adults who haven't participated in communion. If you or your child aren't signed up, please get in touch with Pastor Carol at carol@newspiritlutherantucson.org or 224-422-9552.

Everyone else, be sure to be at worship on Sunday, October 17, to celebrate with our first communion group!



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Every year, throughout our denomination (the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), members join in service projects on the same mid-September Sunday, called God's Work, Our Hands. This year at New Spirit, we decided to postpone this annual service event from September to October to wait for better weather. And we decided to hold God's Work, Our Hands in conjunction with the annual Tucson Days of Caring.

Here's what we have planned:

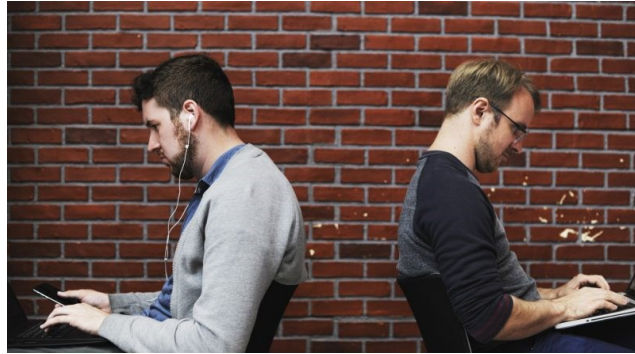
Saturday, October 23, an outdoor event: Cleaning Up Our Neighborhood + Sidewalk Chalk Drawings. We'll send a team out from 8:00-10:00am to pick up trash and generally clean up an area near church and also leave some uplifting pictures and messages on the sidewalks. If you would like to be part of this fun project, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the counter in the church entryway or contact Nancy in the office (520-296-2461 or nancy@newspiritlutherantucson.org).

Sunday, October 24, an indoor project: We'll help Lutheran Social Services welcome refugees from Afghanistan by gathering food to stock pantries*, making "Welcome" signs in appropriate languages, and writing short notes of encouragement (in English!) for kids starting school in a whole new environment. Specific info, including grocery lists, will be forthcoming.



*A note on the grocery collection: If grocery-shopping is a problem for you, you may choose to contribute money and let someone else do the actual shopping. Any cash or checks should be given by Sunday, October 17, to allow time for shopping. Please indicate on the memo of your check that this is for God's Work, Our Hands or on the envelope when giving cash.

How to Start and Maintain Spiritual Conversations Without Being a Jerk



We all know *that* we're called to reach out and build relationships with those outside the church. Problem is, most of us don't know *how* to actually do that without feeling extremely awkward or, even worse, being a jerk about it. This workshop is specially designed to give you practical tips, helpful techniques, and a simple process to ease you through the inevitable awkward stage with others so that you can start and maintain spiritual conversations that are meaningful, effective, and loving.

Sunday, Nov. 7 from 11:00am – 12:30pm

In this 90-minute workshop we'll learn about and begin to practice the following...

Recalibrating our emotional mindset about spiritual conversations

From the Comfort Zone through the Awkward Zone and Beyond

Reimagining who we're trying to reach

The Modified Engel Scale

Reframing what evangelism is all about

Evangelism as initial spiritual guidance

Three simple steps to starting a conversation with anyone

How to test the waters to see if someone is receptive to spiritual conversations

Person of Peace and Finding the Handle

How to ask questions that surface a person's spiritual story

Ask questions using gospel filters

Four key diagnostic questions you can use to *sustain* a spiritual conversation

Self-assessment, goal, obstacles, offer to help with next step



This holiday season **we are joining LSS-SW in collecting 1,000 new queen size bedsheet sets** for older adults and people with disabilities. Any abundance of donated sheets will be distributed to people in need across our programs, including people exiting homelessness, new refugee arrivals, and children in foster care. Your gift of NEW sheets preserves the dignity and respect of our neighbors.

There will be a holiday wrapped box in the Narthex for your donations. No need to wrap them, just drop and go! Please have all sheet sets to the church *no later than Sunday, December 5*, to ensure we can get them to LSS-SW in plenty of time!

We appreciate your generosity and the community efforts New Spirit members continue to provide. God's love and peace be yours!!

TRUNK OR TREAT: New Spirit will be hosting Trunk or Treat this year on Saturday, Oct 30, from 6-8 pm and we will be doing hotdogs for the families that come. There will be signup sheets soon for participating and for helping with the hotdogs. There will also be boxes in the Narthex soon for candy donations. Any questions contact me via email or in person. Karen Colwell klcolwell76@gmail.com.



REMEMBER THE SAINTS ON ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

All Saints Sunday is November 7. This year, we will mark All Saints by inviting everyone to bring photos of loved ones who've passed away to place on the altar. Framed photos are best, but unframed is fine, too. We will be visually reminded that we are just part of God's communion of saints.



TIME TO TALK? Pastoral Intern Glenn Schrader is looking forward to getting to know you all better! Would you be interested in a ~45-minute conversation? The location is your choice: the church, a coffee shop, a park – he's glad to come to any location. Let Nancy know to schedule a time or contact Glenn directly at glschraderdc@aol.com or call him at 301-442-5078. There's no "agenda" – fully guaranteed!

CURB APPEAL: CHURCH WORKDAY

As the weather gets nicer, it's a great time to plan to help out outdoors at church. Our next two work days are Saturday, October 16, and Saturday, November 20, 8:00am-10:00am. From light to heavy work, any help you can give makes a difference! Talk with Ken Dobbs for more information (520) 275-9150.



Women's Ministry Group

Minutes for September 2021

Women's Ministry Group (WELCA Bible Study Group) met at 1:30 on September 8, 2021 at the church.

May 2021 minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Sandy Cooper led devotions by reading the hymns "Fill Me Holy Spirit" and "Where the Spirit of the Lord Is."

Our Bible study was session one of "The gift of Spirit: A divine wild goose chase." This session begins by helping us to connect the Holy Spirit to the rest of the Trinity. None of us really "get" the Trinity. We spent time looking at Jesus' farewell discourse, where he says that the Spirit is a way for Jesus' truth, teaching and presence to be with us even after his ascension. We talked about ways the Spirit serves as our resource, giving us what we need to be God's people.

Old Business: A motion was made and carried that we add an additional \$50.00 to our Synod offering. We will contact women we think may be interested in receiving the Gather Magazine.

New Business: Decide on the best way to handle this year's Thank Offering in November. We will be assembling Christmas cards at our November meeting.



**Women of
His Word**

Dates to Remember: October 2, 2021 – Pastor Marta's Bible study via zoom.
November 6, 2021 – 30th Grand Canyon Women's Virtual Convention via zoom.
The week of 18 September 2023 – Triennial in Phoenix.

Our next meeting will be held on October 13, 2021 at 1:30, at the church.
Sandy Cooper will lead devotions and Barbara Rebok will lead the lesson.

Linda Lamb – Secretary

CELEBRATE PASTOR ALAN AND OUR CONFIRMANDS

Pastor Alan Field retired at the end of May 2020, during the COVID shutdown. We were unable to have the celebration that would have been appropriate to honor his 20 years of ministry at New Spirit. But the wait is over!

The wait will also be over for the confirmation students who worked with Pastor Alan.

On Sunday, October 31, Pastor Alan will be back for worship at 10:00am, when he will preach and confirm our confirmation students. We'll follow that with a luncheon to honor Pastor Alan and say a proper goodbye. We'll celebrate the confirmands as well. A BIG DAY!!

Watch for more information on how you can help. But, most importantly, mark your calendar and don't miss this important occasion!



Shout-Outs



SHOUT OUT - To Nixon Campirano who helped paint in K-Hall in preparation for Sunday School! Many thanks!

SHOUT OUT - To Jenny Kwapich and Jakob and Ethan Rettig who helped sort and organize supplies in preparation for Sunday School! Thanks for all your hard work!

September Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

10/02 Jakob Rettig

10/04 Mary Lou Rex
Robert & Nancy Daliege
(Anniversary)

10/08 Barbara Rapp

10/15 Mary Henkle

10/18 Marlene Hansen



10/19 Sharon Dobbs

10/20 Valerie Friend
Mark & Jamie Buglewicz
(Anniversary)

10/24 Judy McFarland

10/27 Carol Hughes



Purchase your Jim Click Ford raffle tickets for a chance to win a 2021 Ford Bronco Sport! All proceeds stay with our program here at New Spirit. Please see the church office for tickets.

For regular contributions, please make your tax deductible check to Blessings in a Backpack. You can drop it in the offering plate, drop it off at the church office, or drop it directly in the mail to BIB Lockbox, PO Box 950291, Louisville, KY 40295. **Remember to put Steele Elementary on the memo line.**

YOU CAN DESIGNATE OUR PROGRAM THROUGH YOUR FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM. A PERCENTAGE OF WHAT YOU SPEND ON GROCERIES CAN BE DONATED TO BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK. SIGN UP ONLINE OR IN YOUR LOCAL FRY'S STORE. OUR ACCOUNT NUMBER IS XL431. HELP FEED THE KIDS AS YOU FEED YOURSELF!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN FEEDING 280 CHILDREN EACH WEEKEND! Contact the New Spirit church office or Laurie Bernard at lbernard2008@hotmail.com



NEW SPIRIT DIRECTLY IMPACTS 50 PEOPLE PER MONTH

With all the rain this summer, the weeds have taken over in front of the community garden! During our September event, we had help from our clients cleaning up the area. Afterwards, we shared a meal of chili relleno egg casserole, sausages, and pancakes. Grateful for the guys' help!

If you have clothing, shoes, socks, or blankets/sleeping bags, we sure would like you to drop them off at the church. We can always use monetary contributions to help pay for new underwear, hygiene products, flashlights, backpacks, batteries, and tarps.

IF YOU ARE A THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBER, PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING AN ACTION TEAM FOR HOMELESS BLESSINGS. WE WILL RECEIVE \$250 TO HELP TOWARDS THIS MINISTRY.

If you'd like to help our ministry with a cash donation, please make your tax deductible check to New Spirit Lutheran Church with the notation for Homeless Blessings in the memo. You can drop it in the offering plate, drop it off at the church office, or mail it to NSLC, 8701 E. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85710.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS MISSION

Want to help? Contact NSLC Office or Laurie Bernard at lbernard2008@hotmail.com

New Spirit Lutheran Church

8701 E. Old Spanish Trail
Tucson, AZ 85710

Please submit words of thanks and praise to Nancy at nancy@newspiritlutherantucson.org to be placed in the newsletter by the 15th of each month. Thank you!

Sundays: 10:00 am Worship You can currently watch each week's message on YouTube.	<i>How to contact us:</i> New Spirit Lutheran Church 8701 E. Old Spanish Trail Tucson, AZ 85710 Phone: (520) 296-2461 E-Mail: NewSpiritLutheranTucson@yahoo.com Website: newspiritlutherantucson.org
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